CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Sub a2 1. A method for generating metadata for a programming event comprising:

receiving data corresponding to a programming event, the data including descriptive information and timing information;

analyzing the received data to determine category goodness of fit scores for the programming event corresponding to categories of a classification hierarchy;

analyzing the received data to determine keywords associated with the programming event; and

storing category goodness of fit scores and keywords in association with time data and descriptive data for the programming event as metadata for the programming event.

2. The method claimed in claim 1, further comprising determining respective keyword goodness of fit scores for said determined keywords.

3. The method claimed in claim 2, further comprising determining a representative subset of said determined keywords by a thresholding procedure using said keyword goodness of fit scores, and

wherein storing keywords comprises storing said representative subset of keywords and corresponding keyword goodness of fit scores as part of said metadata.

4. The method claimed in claim 1, further comprising determining a representative subset of said category goodness of fit scores, and

wherein storing category goodness of fit scores comprises storing said representative subset of said category goodness of fit scores.

5. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the received data comprises program descriptive data data.

6. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the received data comprises production data including descriptive information and timing information.

7. The method claimed in claim 6, wherein analyzing the received data is preceded by determining a time and a duration of individual segments of a program described by the production data.

8. The method claimed in claim 7, wherein determining a time and duration is preceded by processing the production data to conform to a standard delimited format.

9. The method claimed in claim 7, wherein the received data further comprises program descriptive data data describing the program.

10. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein storing keywords comprises storing no more than a predetermined number of keywords.

11. A device for generating metadata for a programming event comprising:

at least one processor; and

memory coupled to the at least one processor and having stored therein programming instructions to perform data processing, comprising:

receiving data corresponding to a programming event, the data including descriptive information and timing information;

analyzing the received data to determine category goodness of fit scores for the programming event corresponding to categories of a classification ~~hierarchy;~~

analyzing the received data to determine keywords associated with the programming event; and

storing category goodness of fit scores and keywords in association with time data and descriptive data for the programming event as metadata for the programming event.

12. The device claimed in claim 11, said processing further comprising determining respective keyword goodness of fit scores for said determined keywords.

13. The device claimed in claim 12, said processing further comprising determining a representative subset of said determined keywords by a thresholding procedure using said keyword goodness of fit scores, and

wherein storing keywords comprises storing said representative subset of keywords and corresponding keyword goodness of fit scores as part of said metadata.

14. The device claimed in claim 11, said processing further comprising determining a representative subset of said category goodness of fit scores, and

wherein storing category goodness of fit scores comprises storing said representative subset of said category goodness of fit scores.

15. The device claimed in claim 11, wherein the received data comprises program descriptive data data.

16. The device claimed in claim 11, wherein the received data comprises production data including descriptive information and timing information.

17. The device claimed in claim 16, wherein analyzing the received data is preceded by determining a time and a duration of individual segments of a program described by the production data.

18. The device claimed in claim 17, wherein determining a time and duration is preceded by processing the production data to conform to a standard delimited format.

19. The device claimed in claim 17, wherein the received data further comprises program descriptive data data describing the program.

20. The device claimed in claim 11, wherein storing keywords comprises storing no more than a predetermined number of keywords.

21. A method for generating metadata for a programming event comprising:

determining candidate keywords from descriptive data associated with the programming event;

providing the candidate keywords as input to a classification tool configured to generate goodness of fit scores for categories of a classification hierarchy;

selecting keywords from among said candidate keywords based on category goodness of fit scores generated for each of said candidate keywords by the classification tool; and

storing said selected keywords as a component of metadata for the programming event.

22. The method claimed in claim 21, wherein determining candidate keywords comprise determining verbs and nouns of said descriptive data.

23. The method claimed in claim 21, wherein selecting keywords is preceded by:

correlating category goodness of fit scores of said candidate keywords to category goodness of fit scores of said programming event; and

discarding candidate keywords having low correlation.

24. The method claimed in claim 21, wherein selecting keywords comprises eliminating candidate keywords by a thresholding process using a highest category goodness of fit score associated with each candidate keyword.

25. The method claimed in claim 21, further comprising storing a highest category goodness of fit score associated with each selected keyword as a corresponding keyword goodness of fit score.

26. The method claimed in claim 21, wherein storing selected keywords comprises storing no more than a predetermined number of selected keywords.

27. A device for generating metadata for a programming event comprising:

at least one processor; and

memory coupled to the at least one processor and having stored therein programming instructions to perform data processing, comprising:

determining candidate keywords from descriptive data associated with the programming event;

providing the candidate keywords as input to a classification tool configured to generate goodness of fit scores for categories of a classification hierarchy;

selecting keywords from among said candidate keywords based on category goodness of fit scores generated for each of said candidate keywords by the classification tool; and

storing said selected keywords as a component of metadata for the programming event.

28. The device claimed in claim 27, wherein determining candidate keywords comprise determining verbs and nouns of said descriptive data.

29. The device claimed in claim 27, wherein selecting keywords is preceded by:

correlating category goodness of fit scores of said candidate keywords to category goodness of fit scores of said programming event; and

discarding candidate keywords having low correlation.

30. The device in claim 27, wherein selecting keywords comprises eliminating candidate keywords by a thresholding process using a highest category goodness of fit score associated with each candidate keyword.

31. The device claimed in claim 27, said processing further comprising storing a highest category goodness of fit score associated with each selected keyword as a corresponding keyword goodness of fit score.

32. The device claimed in claim 27, wherein storing selected keywords comprises storing no more than a predetermined number of selected keywords.